

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANAMA 00687 151601Z

40

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 SAM-01 SS-15

OPR-02 /070 W

----- 049291

P R 151352Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 2195

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN JORDAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT LE

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON UK

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

COMIDEASTFOR

CNO WASHINGTON DC

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

S E C R E T MANAMA 0687

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS : PINS, PINT, BA

SUBJECT : BAHRAIN SECURITY DECREE

REFERENCE : MANAMA 0661

1. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLY WAS SCHEDULED TO HOLD REGULAR WEEKLY SESSION JUNE 15 AFTER A WEEK OF INTENSE CABINET CONSULTATION AND LOBBYING OF ELECTED DEPUTIES ON SECURITY DECREE ISSUE. PREVAILING SPECULATION WAS THAT GOVERNMENT FELT IT HAD OBTAINED SUFFICIENT SUPPORT FROM MODERATE AND CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS TO SEEK "SECRET SESSION" ON SECURITY DECREE IN WHICH IT WOULD PRESS MOTION TO DELAY FURTHER ASSEMBLY ACTION ON DECREE UNTIL
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MANAMA 00687 151601Z

NEXT FALL. FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD ME JUNE 11 GOVERNMENT QUITE

PREPARED TO AMEND SUBSTANCE OF DECREE DURING SUMMER PARLIAMENTARY RECESS TO MEET SOME OF THE DEPUTIES OBJECTION ON CIVIL LIBERTIES GROUNDS TO ITS LOOSE DEFINITION OF SECURITY OFFENSES.

2. PRIOR TO SCHEDULED ASSEMBLY MEETING, CABINET HELD EMERGENCY SESSION JUNE 15. APPARENTLY GOVERNMENT REASSESSED ITS PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION AND DECIDED TO CONTINUE BOYCOTT OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. MID-MORNING MINISTRY OF INFORMATION ISSUED PUBLIC STATEMENT EXPLAINING GOVERNMENT POSITION. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, GOVERNMENT HAD ORIGINALLY ISSUED DECREE TO BE RESPONSIVE TO WISHES OF ASSEMBLY MEMBERS TO AMEND LESS LIBERAL 1965 DECREE. WHEN NEW DECREE WAS LAID BEFORE ASSEMBLY IT APPEARED SOME MEMBERS STILL OBJECTED TO SOME OF ITS PROVISIONS. THEREFORE, GOVERNMENT HAS SOUGHT DELIBERATE ASSEMBLY STUDY AND CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT ON ISSUES IN QUESTION. ON BASIS CONSULTATIONS, GOVERNMENT CONVINCED DECREE REQUIRES FURTHER STUDY AND THAT IT IS SENSITIVE MATTER WHICH CAN ONLY AT THIS STAGE BE DISCUSSED IN ASSEMBLY IN SECRET SESSION. ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT STATEMENT, WHEN ELECTED DEPUTIES JUNE 8 REFUSED TO AGREE TO SECRET SESSION DISCUSSION, GOVERNMENT HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO REFUSE TO ATTEND ASSEMBLY MEETING. AGAIN JUNE 15, IN ABSENCE ASSEMBLY'S AGREEMENT TO HOLD SESSION IN SECRET, GOVERNMENT FORCED TO REFRAIN FROM ATTENDING MEETING.

3. MANAMA WAS CALM MORNING JUNE 15 WITH BUSINESS AS USUAL ATMOSPHERE BUT PATROLLING BY TRUCKLOADS OF RIOT POLICE WAS EVIDENT.

4. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO US WHAT GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO DO NOW. PRIME MINISTER IS STILL AWAY IN LONDON. BEST GUESS TWO WEEKS AGO WAS THAT NEXT SCHEDULED ASSEMBLY MEETING, JUNE 22, WOULD BE LAST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING BEFORE SUMMER RECESS. IT NOW LOOKS AS IF ELECTED DEPUTIES WILL SEEK TO PROLONG THIS PARLIAMENTARY SEASON INTO JULY TO FORCE GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH WHAT LOCAL PRESS IS DESCRIBING AS "CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS". PRESUMABLY CABINET'S ARM-TWISTING OF MODERATE AND CONSERVATIVE ELECTED DEPUTIES WILL CONTINUE FOR ANOTHER WEEK.
TWINAM

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, LAW, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANAMA00687
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750208-0651
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750648/aaaabriy.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MANAMA 0661
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : BAHRAIN SECURITY DECREE
TAGS: PINS, PINT, BA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006